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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 NEW DELHI 007735

SIPDIS

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TAGS: [PREL](#) [PTER](#) [IN](#) [PK](#) [IZ](#) [INDO](#) [PAK](#)

SUBJECT: DIXIT REAFFIRMS COMMITMENT TO INDO-PAK RAPPROCHEMENT; CAUTIOUS ON IRAQ

Classified By: Ambassador David Mulford, Reasons 1.4 (B,D).

1. (C) Summary: Meeting December 7 with the Ambassador, Indian NSA Dixit offered a guardedly optimistic assessment of the Indo-Pak peace process.
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Iraq: How to Deliver?

2. (C) The Ambassador opened this December 7 discussion by expressing puzzlement that India, despite its large interests in the Gulf, has been keeping the momentum.

3. (C) Turning to Indo-Pak relations, Dixit queried about Musharraf's visit to the White House, expressing relief at the US intention to renounce the Valley. However, he continued, there is "one basic limitation -- jurisdictionally to give up the Valley or other areas in J&K is not on." "Short of an Indian Concession on Bus Documentation"

4. (C) As evidence of India's resolve to keep pushing the Indo-Pak peace process, Dixit cited a new GOI position on documentation for travel. A passport would be used only to establish identity when procuring this LOC crossing certificate from the relevant High Commission.

5. (C) Dixit lamented that the GOP appeared to have rejected this offer, insisting that no form of national identification could be used for

6. (C) Despite these frustrations, Dixit underlined that the PM is strongly committed to get the bus service started, and to launch a parallel track in Kashmir.

7. (C) Dixit struck a similar note of conditional optimism regarding the Kashmir internal track. He said the PM was happy with his visit to New Delhi. "We want them to acknowledge the privileges of being a citizen of a democratic country," Dixit declared, underlining New Delhi's view that the situation in Kashmir is a domestic issue.
MULFORD